workers can carry 100 kilograms, Colombia construction workers 50 kilograms, Finnish packers 40 kilograms and Republic of Korea rice workers 40 kilograms.

In 1967 the ILO recommended a maximum of 55 kilograms to be manually transported by an adult male worker. But this ceiling has yet to become a universal norm.

Existing rules allow men to carry loads ranging from 45 kilograms in the German Democratic Republic to 56 kilograms in Mexico, 80 kilograms in China and 90 kilograms in Bangladesh and Pakistan.

More countries have adopted limitations for women workers than for men and the weight celiing is substantially lower. In Japan it is 30 kilograms for intermittent work and 20 kilograms for continuous work. In the Federal Republic of Germany occasional load carrying by women cannot exceed 15 kilograms and frequent lifting 10 kilograms. Thailand has set a limit of 30 kilograms, the Philippines 25 kilograms, Pakistan 23 kilograms, and Czechoslovakia and the USSR 15 kilograms.

The study notes that in certain countries limits on load lifting and carrying were adopted early in the ceautry and are being replaced by good working practice. These include Belgium, Chile. Cyprus, France, Hong Kong, Italy, Malta, Mexico, Portugal, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the USSR and parts of Australia and the United States.

In the industrialised countries mechanisation has generally replaced manual transport. Also there is a greater understanding of physiological, biomechanical and ergonomic factors. "The causes of back injuries and other health problems associated with physical activity are better known and the value of training and correct kinetic techniques in lifting and carrying have been recognised", the report says.

Recently the concept of maximum load has become more complex. In addition to the weight lifted and carried, other conditions such as the distance, the slope involved, the rate of energy, expenditure, the percentage of time spent on manual transport and the total load of the workshift have to be considered. Furhter more the size of the load, the case of grip, the symmetry of effort and the ambient temperature play a role in the evaluation of the physical effort.

Strict observance of a load ceiling—suitably adjusted to the age, sex and physique of the worker and to the general working environment—can substantially reduce back injuries at the workplace, says George Kliesch, Director of the ILO's Working Conditions and Environment Department. In can also save hundreds of millions of dollars in compensation payments as well as prolonged suffering for the victims.

Cyclone relief fund from U.K.

2064. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that British Government have provided grants of £ 65,000 (over Rs. 18.5 lakh) for emergency relief work in Andhra Pradesh following the devastating cyclone in the State in May this year;

(b) whether similar cyclone relief funds have also been received from other countries; if so, the total relief fund received from other countries; if so, the total relief fund received from different countries; and

(c) the manner in which the relief funds have been and are being spent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.